

RUSHVILLE CITY COMMON COUNCIL
TUESDAY, JUNE 15, 2004
6:00 P.M.

The Rushville City Common Council met on the above date and time at 270 West 15th Street, Rushville, Indiana.

PUBLIC HEARING * * *

Mayor Bridges opened the meeting for a public hearing at 6:00 p.m., in regard to the application for the Community Focus Funds for the Southside Sewer Expansion. Trena Carter from ARa was present to answer any questions. Alberta Adams asked what happened to the records at the Courthouse that said Waits Addition would not be annexed. She thought Waits Addition was incorporated and did not think it could be annexed if it was incorporated. Bridges said that it is not incorporated. Fields asked Adams if she was against the City seeking the funds. She said she was not against the City seeking the funds. There being no other comments, Sheehan made a motion to close the public hearing. McGowan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

At 6:05 p.m. Mayor Bridges called the meeting of the Rushville City Common Council to order with Chris Fields, Darrin McGowan, John Byrne, Brian Sheehan, and Mike Pavey answering roll call. Also present were City Attorney, Tracy Newhouse, Jan Voiles, *Rushville Republican*, and Scott Murray, WKWH.

MINUTES * * *

Minutes of the June 1, 2004, were presented for approval. Sheehan made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Byrne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT * * *

- Had an independent engineer look at the drainage problem for retention area at Wilson Estates. He made recommendations and those recommendations have been forwarded to the City Engineers for their comment. Bridges is waiting for feedback. Bridges has asked Bennett to make some cursory digs in the retention areas. He discovered approximately 20 feet of clogged 4-inch pipe. He has replaced the pipe and reconfigured an inlet that should help until a determination on the improvements can be made.

The Booker T. Washington Association has requested the City to take over the Booker T. Washington Center. The Mayor's secretary would do the scheduling of the events at the building. The Park's Board is questioning

- the cost of the upkeep of the building. Bill Goins has committed to continue fundraising, but has requested an amount we thought needed to be raised yearly. My thoughts are, the City of Rushville owns the building. It is a historical building and is listed on the National Register. To let it deteriorate would be tragic. I do think we need to meet with the Park's Board and actually tour the building and then discuss the long-range plan for the building. Sheehan asked what the City does now to maintain the building. Bridges said we mainly do the mowing and landscaping. They had some trees cut down and also took care of a mold problem. Byrne questioned if the current renters would be staying. Bridges said ICAP wishes to stay. Bridges also indicated that he thought the rent for special occasions needed to be raised. Sheehan said he thought we need to take a look at what they are spending now at Booker T. and also get a recommendation from the Park Board. It was agreed to table the matter and for further research and to have a joint meeting at Booker T.
- Attended the Rush County Council meeting concerning the fiber optic funding. They agreed if a fourth party cannot be found they would fund up to 1/3 of the project if the City and Rush/Shelby Energy will do the same. They also asked Dave Sheets to approach Rush Memorial Hospital and Rushville Consolidated Schools to see if they would reconsider being a fourth partner in the project. Sheets has agreed to make contact with both agencies. Sheehan asked if we knew how soon they would need the money. Bridges said probably before January. Pavey made a motion to commit 1/3 of the money if a 4th party cannot be found. Fields seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - Appointed Councilman Sheehan to work with the Mayor on an excel worksheet for the budget.

CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT * * *

None.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS * * *

Street – Bennett reported that he had 2 employees retiring at the end of July. The Board of Works gave him permission to hire Gary Spilman as a full time skilled Street Department Employee, and to advertise for another employee.

He said the secondary repairs on the Northeast Project have been completed. He said he is satisfied that it is the best that can be done and believes we can go ahead and finalize the project and release the retainage.

The Army Corp of Engineers did their annual levy inspection. Their only concern was that the high water warning device was not in service. They said it needed to be reconnected and maintained.

Bennett said he checked the Wilson Estates drainage problem and found the West retention pond was in pretty bad shape. When they opened it up they found there was a 10-foot section completely plugged with roots. They repaired that section. He said the East side was dry and looked pretty good.

Councilman Byrne challenged all department heads to take a serious look at their department when they wished to replace an employee and see if they really need to replace each time. He said maybe they could change some things and do with one less employee. He encouraged the department heads to look at their budget and how they are running their department. This was not a complaint, only a suggestion.

Park – Mathews reminded everyone that this weekend was the Relay for Life. He said he was really pleased with the widening of the fitness trail. He also said there will be gospel music in the park on June 27th.

CITIZEN'S CONCERNS * * *

- Sheehan asked if we had any response from Comcast regarding the cable. Bridges said a meeting is suppose to be set up soon.
- Fields said he has had 3 calls regarding the extension of Cherry Street. Fields indicated that these residents would like to have the matter considered. Bridges said he believed it was discussed at one time.
- Scott Murray said he thought we needed to take a look at the many mini bikes on the street. He said some were so small it was hard to see them and was afraid someone was going to get hurt.
- Jim Maxwell asked when the lots at Wilson Estates will be ready for sale. Bridges said we will be preparing an advertisement for sale and it will be up to Council. Byrne made a motion to allow the Board of Works to proceed with the sale of the lots at Wilson Estates. Sheehan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS * * *

Zoning Ordinance – Joe Ratz reviewed some changes to the zoning ordinance. Sheehan said **Section C. City Review** needed to be more defined. After lengthy discussion Pavey made a motion to approve the zoning ordinance pending revision of City Review section. Sheehan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Fujitsu Ten – Representatives were present from Fujitsu Ten Corporation regarding tax abatement papers that were being requested from the County Auditor's Office. Pavey made a motion to table the matter until the proper paper work was obtained and if necessary Council could call a special meeting. Byrne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS * * *

Resolution 2004-11 CFF Resolution – Sheehan made a motion to approve Resolution 2004-11 for the submission of the CFF application. Fields seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Editha Doll Moratorium – Editha Doll asked Council to consider lifting the moratorium so she could put in a double wide. Bridges said it conforms and recommended to Council to forego the moratorium and allow Doll to move forward. Byrne moved to lift the moratorium. Fields seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Claims – Sheehan made a motion to approve the claims as presented. Pavey seconded the motion. Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before Council, McGowan made a motion to adjourn. Pavey seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

ROBERT M. BRIDGES, MAYOR

CHRISTOPHER S. FIELDS, MEMBER

DARRIN L. MCGOWAN, MEMBER

JOHN M. BYRNE, MEMBER

BRIAN J. SHEEHAN, MEMBER

MICHAEL P. PAVEY, MEMBER

ATTEST:

ANN L. COPLEY, CLERK-TREASURER